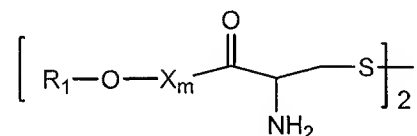


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

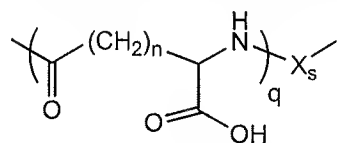
Listing of Claims:

1(Currently Amended). A pharmaceutical composition ~~useful for the treatment of cancer~~ comprising a compound of the formula:



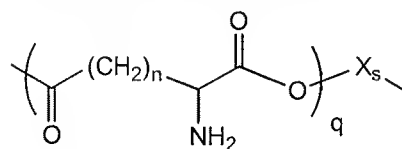
wherein R₁ is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, X is a naturally-occurring ~~or non-naturally-occurring~~ amino acid, and m is an integer of 0 to 20, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

2(Withdrawn). The composition according to claim 1, wherein X_m is:



wherein n is an integer of 1 or 2, q is an integer of 0 or 1, and s is an integer of 0 to 19.

3(Withdrawn). The composition according to claim 1, wherein X_m is:

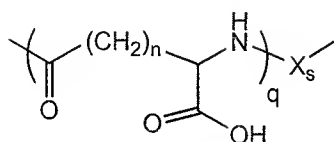


wherein n is an integer of 1 or 2, q is an integer of 0 or 1, and s is an integer of 0 to 19.

4(Currently Amended). The composition according to claim 1, wherein:

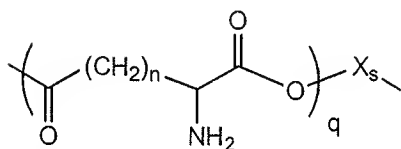
- i. m is 0;
- ii. m is 0, said R₁ is a methyl group, and said compound is cystine dimethyl ester;

iii. X_m is:



wherein, n is an integer of 1 or 2, q is an integer of 0 or 1, s is an integer of 0 to 19, X is selected from the group consisting of D-Asp, L-Asp, D-Glu and L-Glu, and m is 1; or

iv. X_m is



wherein, n is an integer of 1 or 2, q is an integer of 0 or 1, s is an integer of 0 to 19, X is selected from the group consisting of D-Asp, L-Asp, D-Glu and L-Glu, and m is 1.

5-11(Canceled).

12(Previously Presented). The composition according to claim 1, further comprising a cytotoxic compound.

13(Withdrawn). The composition according to claim 12, wherein said cytotoxic compound is an apoptotic compound or a chemotherapeutic compound.

14(Canceled).

15(Currently Amended). The composition according to claim 1, wherein said compound ~~upon exposure to a susceptible cell~~ increases the a cell's intralysosomal cystine level above 0.5 nmol/mg cell protein.

16-27(Canceled).

28(Original). A pharmaceutical kit for the treatment of cancer comprising at least one composition of claim 1 in a dosage unit.

29(Canceled).

30(Previously Presented). The kit according to claim 28, wherein said compound is cystine dimethyl ester.

31(Canceled).

32(Previously Presented). The kit according to claim 28, further comprising a cytotoxic compound.

33(Previously Presented). The composition according to claim 1, wherein said cancer is breast cancer.

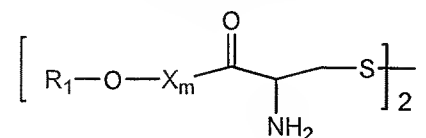
34(Previously Presented). The kit according to claim 28, wherein said cancer is breast cancer.

35(Previously Presented). The kit according to claim 28, wherein said composition is formulated for administration to a cell concurrently with radiation.

36(Previously Presented). The composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated for administration to a cell concurrently with radiation.

37(New). The composition according to claim 33, wherein said breast cancer is estrogen receptor-negative.

38(New). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the formula:



wherein R_1 is a substituted or unsubstituted lower alkyl of 1 to 10 carbon atoms, X is a naturally-occurring amino acid, and m is an integer of 0 to 20, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein said compound is present in said pharmaceutical composition in an amount effective to induce apoptosis in a cancer cell.

39(New). The composition according to claim 38, wherein said cancer cell is a breast cancer cell.

40(New). The composition according to claim 39, wherein said breast cancer cell is estrogen receptor-negative.